

The Hong Kong Daily Press

No. 6496 號六百四十六

日壇初月九日寅戌緒光

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 1878.

四年緒 號六十二九英 淩

PRICE 2½ PER MONTH.

SHIPPING.

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

ARRIVALS.
September 25, VOLGA, Eng. str., 1,000, Rolland, Yokohama, 18th Sept., Mails and General. Mississauga Martime.

September 25, DUNLOP, British str., 1,240, JACKSON, Liverpool, 7th August, Port Said 23rd August, and Singapor 17th Sept., General. BURGESS & SWINN.

September 25, SAVANNA, Swan str., 615, Larima, Manila 22nd Sept., General.

REINHOLD & CO.

CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBOURMASTER'S OFFICE, SEPTEMBER 25TH.

Stratford, Brit. ship, for Portland (Oregon). Namur, British steamer, for East Coast. Civitas, German bark, for Newchwang. Varuna, German bark, for Newchwang. Perseus, British steamer, for Swatow. Diodon, British steamer for Shanghai.

Diodon, British steamer for Shanghai.

DEPARTURES.

September 25, PEKIN, Brit. str., for Swatow.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

For Vicks, str., from Yokohama.

Mr. Harold, child, and servant.

For Diodon, str., from Liverpool, &c.

35 Chinese.

For Vicks, str., from Manila, &c.

Miss D. V. Calvo, M. Alfonso, S. Perez, D. Pons, M. Perez, J. Ygnacio, J. del Amo, Y. Maldona, S. Gimeno, T. Lences, F. Ruiz, R. Rodriguez, F. Plaizencia, C. Quintana, E. Gómez.

REPORTS.

The Spanish steamship *Sabores* reports left Manila on 22nd September, and had fresh N.W. winds and heavy sea.

The British steamship *Diodon* reports left Liverpool on 17th August, Port Said on the 22nd, and Singapore on 17th September, and had fine weather throughout the passage, with moderate winds.

SWATOW SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

September 12, KWANGTUNG, Brit. str., from Coast Ports.

13, DONGHAI, British str., from Hongkong.

14, Anna, German bark, from Newchwang.

15, Anna, German bark, from Newchwang.

16, Ingham, Ger. bark, from Newchwang.

17, Davina, British bark, from Newchwang.

18, Chefoo, British steamer, from Hongkong.

19, Chinkiang, British str., from Shanghai.

20, Yotting, British steamer, from Hongkong.

21, Yesso, British steamer, from Hongkong.

22, Olympia, German str., from Newchwang.

23, Concordia, German str., from Newchwang.

24, Concordia, German str., from Newchwang.

25, Concordia, British steamer, for Hongkong.

SINGAPORE SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

September 12, F. MARINA, Dutch str., from Pontianak.

13, Baby, British str., from Hongkong.

14, Anna, British str., from Bangkok.

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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 1878.

Such an audacious attack on property as
that which took place in Wing Lok-street
yesterday morning has not been perpetrated
in the Colony for many long years.Matters have surely reached a climax when
a band of desperadoes armed with guns,
swords, spears, and stinkpots can assemble
and hold a street for some time before
it is possible to disperse them. The
silence of the steam launch was an appropriate
consummation to the daring defiance given to
the Authorities by these miscreants. The
Police were wholly unprepared for such
an unexpected and desperate assault, and
hence the robbers were enabled for some time
to have things pretty much their own way.The Police showed plenty of courage and no
lack of promptitude when they ascertained
the position of affairs, but their arrangements
were not equal to the emergency, and they
were taken so completely by surprise that
they could not possibly collect in sufficient
force to secure the numerous band. The
determination with which they acted when
on the spot served, however, to frustrate
the robbers in their attempt to break
open the safe, and thus prevented them
from securing the large booty which they
had hoped to obtain. As it is, however, the
robbers have got off scot-free in a steam-launch
which they had stolen; and admitting that
their plan were admirably organised and
very ingenious, it cannot be denied that the
arrangements for the public safety are neither
sufficient nor satisfactory.Who and what is responsible for this lawless
condition of things in the Colony is the
first and natural question of the
indignant public? Some two years ago we were
able to congratulate the community on the
decrease in crime of a serious character in
Hongkong, to compliment the Police on their
increased efficiency, and everyone fondly
hoped that the old days of frequent high-
way robberies and burglaries were over and
done with. The severity exercised against
old offenders and desperate characters had
had a salutary effect in keeping them out
of the Colony. Then came Mr. HENKESAY
with his new-fangled and humanitarian
views as to the treatment of criminals. His
incisive words and still more incisive
acts of lenity became known with wonderful
celerity to all the criminal population of
Kwang-tung, who were found misinformed;
depraved villains raised their dejected heads,
and gathering courage from the reports given
of the "meritless man," ventured back to the
scene of their former iniquities with new
projects for the plunder of the inhabitants.
It is needless to say what has been the
condition of the Colony for the past six months.Burglaries have been constant, and the
marauders have in nearly every case escaped
undetected. The criminal class has rarely
been more numerous, or more skilful in its opera-tions. The Police have been baffled again
and again, and the public are beginning, and
not without reason, to be seriously alarmed.Something must be done, and that quickly.
A public meeting should be held, to express
the sentiments of the community forward
a memorial to His Excellency the Governor
praying him to take immediate measures of
the strongest and most decided character
to repress crime and protect property. Other
wise there will soon be no safety for either
foreigners or Chinese. Elated with their
success, this daring band will next
beasturing plans for attacking the Banks and
other establishments. Steps must be taken
in time before any, more, such attempts are
made. The Police patrols must be strengthened
and all the members of the force
armed and ready for any emergency; steam
launches provided for the water Police to
neutralise them to cut off the retreat of robbers
and pirates and put down the thieves with
which the harbour teems; the acting
magistrates must be instructed to cease
imposing five and ten cent fines on offenders
or discharging watchmen to gamblers be-
cause theirs "is no offence in law," and
the murderer TAX AXAT must no longer
be kept in suspense as to his fate, im-
posing the native mind with the conviction that
the GOVERNOR means also to reprove him.
It is high time that sentiment should be flung
aside, and stern Justice be allowed to resume
her unshackled sway. We cannot afford
with hordes of dangerous criminals in our
midst, to waste time in experimenting on
different modes of punishment. Let the law
be enforced vigorously, let the Police force be
rendered strong and efficient, and we are con-
fident that these burglaries and outrages will
soon be as rare as during the late admini-
stration.A trap accident occurred on the Albany road
on Tuesday evening. Fortunately the occupant
was unharmed, but the trap was smashed to pieces.We hear that Dr. Adam's bungalow on the
Peak was visited by a gang of robbers on Tuesday night
and property of considerable value carried off.A piratical attack was made upon a junk near
Shau-ki-wan on the night of the 23rd, in which
two men were seriously injured. They were hoisted
yesterday morning and taken to hospital.The British steamer *Diamond*, Captain Jackson,
having passed the British steamer *Siata* on the
22nd instant in lat. 15 N. and long.
110.30 E., wished to be reported all well.It is interesting to note, at this juncture, that
the English and German Governments have
entered into an arrangement to loan Naval
Commanders to do all in their power to suppress
piracy in these waters.The latest news from Aboen is of a favourable
nature to the Dutch. The native chieftain, it is
said, are getting dispirited and tired of
the English, and are prepared to submit
to a man who is known to be a good
man.A piratical attack was made upon a junk near
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EXTRACTS.

"THE PURITAN MAIDEN."

Denore little damsel in vesture of grey,
The gray of the turtle dove, simple and plain;
A kerchief of white round the neck fluffs its way;
A snowy mat-cap doth its tresses restrain;
An apron and keys are attached to thy waist;
Thy thrifty home duties they clearly avow;
In grace and appearance so modest and stately,
A dear little Puritan truly art thou!

"But can I be dreaming? Do Puritans dance?
Or use such expressions as 'Awful'?"
Do they permit Cupid to dwell in their glances?
Or ever dream in a strawberry-bush?
No, there pretty maidens, the same fault;
In costume and colour, though quite come off fast,
The prim fops resemble only partially these!
The frolicsome spirit that's hidder below."

"Tulley's Magazine."

PRESERVING A WIFE'S SKULL.

When a widower rushes a second time into matrimony, it is advisable for him to be chary of his expressions of tender remembrance for his first wife, who, however estimable she may have been, is rarely seen in a friendly light by her successor. Louis Sardé, a nephew of Sardou, who at once paid two thousand pounds in to his credit at his bank. Everything is done by him in the same magnificent style. He takes a house, and he has a drawing-room panelled in quilted satin, and furnished in ebony and gold. They passed through corridors lined with costly paintings. But, wealthy though Decker was, yet he was not happy. He had to avenge the cruel wrongs of a lady who, when she enters the story, brings with her the "soft of romance's" fifteen threads to complete "the web of the lives whose destinies are growing under our eyes." He is himself dying of consumption, but he determines that the villain shall die first. This latter gentleman turns out to be other than Sleaford's son, Decker exclaims, "O bitter, cruel, lustful ruffian! Tristam Decker is on thy track. His golden shafts shall reach thy black crave heart-soul, lying, cowardly thief!" Accordingly he purchases from a physician the secret of poisoning a man in such a way that no suspicion shall be aroused, and he then dispatches his enemy. The poison acts so slowly that he has time to address his dying victim in four or five pages of print. He does not live long. His death causes "honest and bitter mourning in two households."

A CHINESE ENCYCLOPEDIA.

Confucius says that nearly two thousand years before Christ, E Yin, a Chinese statesman, presented a memorial in writing to his Sovereign. This is the first mention made in Chinese history of the work; but since that time a continuous and ever-increasing stream of literature has been poured over the country, until at the present moment there is probably more printed matter in China than in all Europe put together. In the literary history of all countries, the exercise of the imagination preceded that of the descriptive, and the former, which had been able to learn but little, and that only in a fragmentary way and with much labour, from the very imperfect collections of Chinese works to which they have hitherto had access.

As it was never intended that this work

should pass into general circulation, only a hundred copies were printed off, and these were distributed as marks of Imperial favour among certain Princes of the Blood and prominent vicars. The copper type which had

thus served the immediate purpose for which it had been cast was thrown on one side, and gradually disappeared to supply the wants of dishonest officials and a thieving Government.

Meanwhile the copies of the "Kin

wo kiu tso shoo tsing ching," as the work was entitled, were transported to China, and, though their owners, and there some remain to this day. But the last hundred and fifty years have been troublous years for China. Her richer provinces have been devastated by repeated rebellions, her cities have been sacked, and her palaces have been

levelled with the dust. Under the influence of these destructive causes, in addition to the ever-present dangers to which libraries

are exposed, the number of existing perfect copies has dwindled down to a few tens.

The odd volumes which are to be met with in different parts of the empire and of Europe

testify to the common dispersion of copies;

and it is quite possible that before long the

one which is now in the British Museum

may be the only perfect copy existing.

Post-Mall Gazette.

SCHOOL OF BEAUTY.

It is asserted that there is in course of formation "A School of Beauty" in which the members, male and female, pledge themselves to do all they can to make themselves comely by natural means. Prizes will be given to those ladies who can move with ease and grace and so offend evidence of their use of their limbs, whilst it will be a leading rule of the school that, though stays may be used as a means of support, they shall not be deemed essential as an accessory to beauty.

GARIBALDI AND THE LOST LAMB.

In "The Life of Garibaldi," just published by General Borodone, is contained a very characteristic anecdote which is related in the *Patte*. It took place in 1861, when one

of the second Emperor of that time, devoted himself to the task of multiplying encyclopedias of established information to be recited among the many noteworthy deeds of that enlightened Sovereign.

Amid all the duties of government, which were rendered additionally onerous by the recent accession of his dynasty, and in the short intervals allowed him between the most constant wars which harassed the greater part of his reign, he found time to superintend the compilation of the best dictionary of the Chinese language which has ever been published.

He succeeded in forming as it were a dam across the stream of thought which was flowing to briskly in the minds of his countrymen, and, instead of encouraging a deep outward current of intellectual enterprise, he drove the stream backwards in a shallow flood towards its fountain. The result has been that the best scholars have exhausted their ingenuity in minute criticisms and laboured treatises on the texts of Confucius and his school, while others have devoted their energies to compiling historical records and rendering accessible the immense stores of knowledge which have been pain-fully elaborated during preceding genera-tions.

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